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WINE 100

Australia's Leading Independent Wine Guide

1 in 200

**JOSEF CHROMY 2009
TASMANIA PINOT NOIR**

We explore:
HUNTER VALLEY

WINE CATEGORIES INCLUDING

*Best Blends &
Impress Your Friends*

Style in focus:
PINOT NOIR



200 WINE REVIEWS

Tin200

Josef Chromy Pinot Noir

Vintage 2009

RRP \$30

NS: This shows nifty aromatic lift with spicy red and purple cherry fruits - the palate has juicy acid drive and tannins sweep effortlessly through plenty of lip-smacking cherry fruits.

www.josefchromy.com.au



93

DELICATE APPROACH

Winemaking at Josef Chromy follows the principles of minimal handling and respect for the characters of the fruit. Jeremy Dineen uses the most delicate processes possible in the winery to reveal the individual characters of the vineyard. The aim at Joseph Chromy is to make wines of elegance, delicacy and varietal expression.

The grapes for the 2009 Pinot Noir were sourced from the estate vineyard at Relbia in northern Tasmania. After being hand picked and gently destemmed - with minimum berry breakage - the ferment was carried out in small-batch, open-top bins with regular plunging to immerse the skins and extract colour and tannin gently.

Jeremy points out this wine is "very approachable now" but because of the richness of fruit and fine tannins it will reward careful cellaring until 2015.

Chard Farm The Tiger Pinot Noir

Vintage 2009

RRP \$67

NS: This has lighter colour and a distinctive, musky whole bunch lift to the nose, red perfume, mixed berries and attractive spice. The palate has ripe red strawberry, pure and attractive, fine tannins and plenty of early drinking appeal.



www.chardfarm.co.nz

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Coal Valley Vineyard Pinot Noir

Vintage 2009

RRP \$30

NS: Deep and vivid red/purple colour with gentle herbs laced through deep dark cherries, rich earth, cedary oak and savoury spice. The palate's laid out on ripe and even tannins with good concentration, balance and a long red fruit finish.



www.coalvalley.com.au

93

Ten Minutes By Tractor Wallis Vineyard Pinot Noir

Vintage 2008

RRP \$70

NS: Impressive definition and detail from this cooler elevated location offering lively red fruit aromas and gentle spice. The palate builds superbly with lithe and juicy tannins, finishing with fresh-spiced strawberry flavour.



www.tenminutesbytractor.com.au

93

**Stefano Lubiana Sasso
Pinot Noir**

96

Vintage 2008 RRP \$90

NS: Lubiana's top-flight Pinot is complex. It speaks of Tasmania's East Coast with savoury game meats, hard brown spices, earth, chocolate, dried cherry and rich fragrance. Impressive density, depth and balance – great length and a wealth of plum and cherry flavour running through shapely, sturdy tannins.

Yeringberg Pinot Noir

96

Vintage 2008 RRP \$75

TS: One of the Pinots of the vintage – epic purity, freshness and poise. It's unashamedly medium-bodied, with fresh rose petal and violet aromas and red cherry and berry flavours, and at the same time great structural presence of firm, fine, silky tannins. Impressive longevity.

**Felton Road Pinot Noir
Calvert**

95

Vintage 2009 RRP \$83

NS: Very complete wine with polished and deeply integrated aromas of ripe dark cherry, boysenberry, spice and swirling musk fragrance. The palate has smooth-honed tannins and a swathe of ripe, dark cherry flavour, finishing with effortless balance.

**Gembrook Hill Yarra
Valley Pinot Noir**

95

Vintage 2008 RRP \$48

TS: High in the furthest reaches of the Upper Yarra, this cool site breeds pale Pinot Noir of tightly-coiled, zesty acidity and taut tannins to sustain it for decades. Fresh red cherries, red and black pepper, musk and subtle choc oak are the themes here.

**Ashton Hills Pinot Noir
Reserve**

94

Vintage 2008 RRP \$67

NS: A darker fruit style, this has added depth and power to it, more oak (100% new French), dark cherries, game meats and spice. The palate's sturdy, flavoursome and ripe with plenty of fresh, ripe tannins that trail long and true.

Cloudy Bay Pinot Noir

94

Vintage 2008 RRP \$49

TS: An impressive vintage for Cloudy Bay Pinot, this is built around flavours of cherry, cherry kernel and violets, which swell in the mid palate to build fruit weight on the finish. A dried herb note adds complexity, supported by supple, finely structured tannins, which lingers long.

Kelvedon Estate Pinot Noir

94

Vintage 2009 RRP \$35

NS: A striking Pinot showing dark ripe cherry and plum, some pepper, light spices and cedary oak. The palate's bright and flavoursome, offering ripe cherries, game meats, even tannins and crisp acid crunch.

**Marchand & Burch
Gibraltar Rock Pinot Noir**

94

Vintage 2009 RRP \$70

TS: Among the finest Pinots to emerge from the west in recent times, from a biodynamically-managed Porongurup site – one of the oldest vineyards in the region. Its tiny crop produces a wine of purity and structure. A pretty rose petal bouquet introduces a palate of bright red cherry and gravelly tannins.

**Wantirna Estate Lily Pinot
Noir**

94

Vintage 2009 RRP \$65

TS: A delightfully elegant Pinot of purity, refinement and succulent red fruits. A perfumed bouquet dances with rose petals, red cherries and ripe strawberries. These carry through the palate, amid a silky sheet of fine, supple tannins. Not the slightest suggestion of a challenging vintage here.

**Ashton Hills Pinot Noir
Estate**

93

Vintage 2008 RRP \$45

NS: Smells of fragrant musk-dusted strawberries and cherries, some gentle spice and hints of undergrowth here – good young complexity. The palate's supple and fleshy, with plenty of ripe red fruits, bright acid and a web of tannin netting the finish.

Coombend Pinot Noir

93

Vintage 2009 RRP \$26

NS: A standout of the vintage with deep dark purple colour and sappy cherries and boysenberry fruits, cinnamon and fragrant eastern spice. The palate's all blueberry and plum, quite assertive, with supple tannins and handy balance.

**Dalrymple Estate Pinot
Noir**

93

Vintage 2008 RRP \$45

NS: A best-of-vineyard assembly, this has engaging complex toasted spices, ripe dark herbs, some pencil shaving oak and strong game meats. The palate's laid out on fine, even tannins and neat acid presence lights the way through the slightly smoky finish.

**Oakridge 864 Pinot Noir –
Hickory Downs Vineyard**

93

Vintage 2008 RRP \$65

NS: A delicately disposed Pinot with fragrant red cherries, blueberries, some savoury oak and twirling spice. The palate has mellow allure with smooth, evenly-cast tannins, crunchy red cherry fruits and a savoury kick through the finish.

Frogmore Creek Pinot Noir

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$36

NS: This is looking a tidy wine and has some attractive brambly-ripe cherry and red berry fruits, violets and sweet-spiced oak. The palate's settled and seamless, showing smooth tannin wrap and lingering red fruit flavour.

**Neudorf Moutere Pinot
Noir**

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$49

TS: Spicy and honed, this is a Pinot Noir with lively acidity, fresh green herbs, red cherries, pepper and an edgy finish of firm, fine tannins. It's a lean and linear style with well-defined structure that will benefit from a vigorous decant or some years in the cellar to build flesh.

**Pike & Joyce Adelaide
Hills Pinot Noir**

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$35

TS: A fresh, well made Lenswood Pinot with a juicy, primary fruit emphasis. Strawberries and red cherries are the focus here, backed by a nicely textured layer of firm, fine tannins, finishing long and fruity.

**Pipers Brook Vineyard
Estate Pinot Noir**

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$41.50

TS: They're not afraid of tannin and oak in Burgundy, so we shouldn't be in Australian Pinot, either. There's plenty of oak to support the pure red cherry and red berries here. The fruit lingers long amid loads of firm fruit and oak tannin. Ultimately, the fruit wins out, but don't come back for five years.

Wither Hills Pinot Noir

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$30

TS: On the NZ Pinot scale, there's real value here, with good depth of black cherry and plum supported by finely-structured and firmly-poised tannins. Bright red cherry and ripe berries linger long on the finish.

**Knapstein Acland
Vineyard Watervale
Riesling**

95

Vintage 2010 RRP \$33

TS: Watervale was the star of Clare in 2010, and these old vines are right in its core. Pure lime juice, lemon zest and Granny Smith Apples, underlaid by fine minerality and chalky texture. One of the highlights of this season.

**Frankland Estate Isolation
Ridge Vineyard Shiraz**

94

Vintage 2008 RRP \$27

NS: A wine to impress simply because it's so authentic. Lovely ripe plums and spice-dusted dark berries, some sanguine earthy nuances lurking below. The palate has impressively elegant intensity with plenty of blackberry and pepper flavour - the tannins spread even and long.

Pikes The Merle Riesling

94

Vintage 2010 RRP \$38

TS: This is an excellent Merle and a very fine result for such an early Clare vintage. A wine of purity, concentration and structure, it's accented with Kaffir Lime and green pepper notes. A very fine, chalky minerality provides mouth filling texture from start to finish.

**Seville Estate Reserve
Pinot Noir**

93

Vintage 2008 RRP \$55

NS: A pale, charismatic Pinot from older vines in the Upper Yarra Valley, this has game meats and red berries on the nose, already very complex. The palate rolls out lacy fine tannins with elegance and fine-boned length.

**Yarraloch Stephanie's
Dream Shiraz**

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$40

NS: A ripe and sweetly-fragrant reserve wine of sorts, with plenty of blue fruits, dark cherries and sweet purple flowers - this really entices. The palate has deep plum and chocolate flavours with ripe tannins and a savoury brooding length. Walks the edge of ripeness so best drunk young while composed.



Tasty Tassie

Bream Creek Pinot Noir

92

Vintage 2009
RRP \$34

NS: A big, ripe and gently peppery Pinot with punchy, dried dark stone fruits, fruit cake and dark roasting herbs. The palate rolls out very ripe tannins that swerve from side to side, bringing rich plum flavour and a big juicy finish.


www.breamcreekvineyard.com.au
Stefano Lubiana Riesling

94

Vintage 2009 RRP \$29

NS: This is a tightly-focused lime and apple-blossom style that has great potential for the cellar. The palate's finely focused with a savoury acid line - really smoothly captured and long through the finish.

**Stefano Lubiana
Sauvignon Blanc**

93

Vintage 2010 RRP \$30

NS: Superb fruit on the nose here - airy and fragrant tropicals and Tahitian lime, verging on stone fruits. The palate delivers impressive acidity in a crisp, fleshy style - flavours of melon and hints of nectarine through the finish.

Ninth Island Pinot Grigio

92

Vintage 2010 RRP \$21.50

TS: Crunchy, fresh, clean and tight, this is a pure expression of citrus zest and subtle white fruits, rippling with layers of cool, Tassie minerality and zesty structure. It's a gorgeously fragrant wine with aromas of frangipane and Linden blossom.

Pirie South Chardonnay

92

Vintage 2008 RRP \$24

NS: Nicely-captured pear and minerals on the nose, gentle spice and some creamy lees-derived influence. The palate's fresh and lively, delivering ripe pear and white-nectarine flavour - terrific balance to boot.

**Jansz Tasmania Premium
Non Vintage Cuvee**

91

Vintage NV RRP \$25

TS: Peach, honey and roast nut complexity define this style, with a lingering finish of nougat. Lemon zest, tight lemon juice acidity and minerality rise to provide a clean, fresh cut to the finish, countering the sweetness of 9g/L of residual.

Spring Vale Pinot Gris

90

Vintage 2009 RRP \$27

NS: A complex and ripe Gris that shows opulent stone fruits and a sliver of savoury complexity. The palate's smooth and easy with easy textural glide, delivering crunchy pear, apple and lychee.